

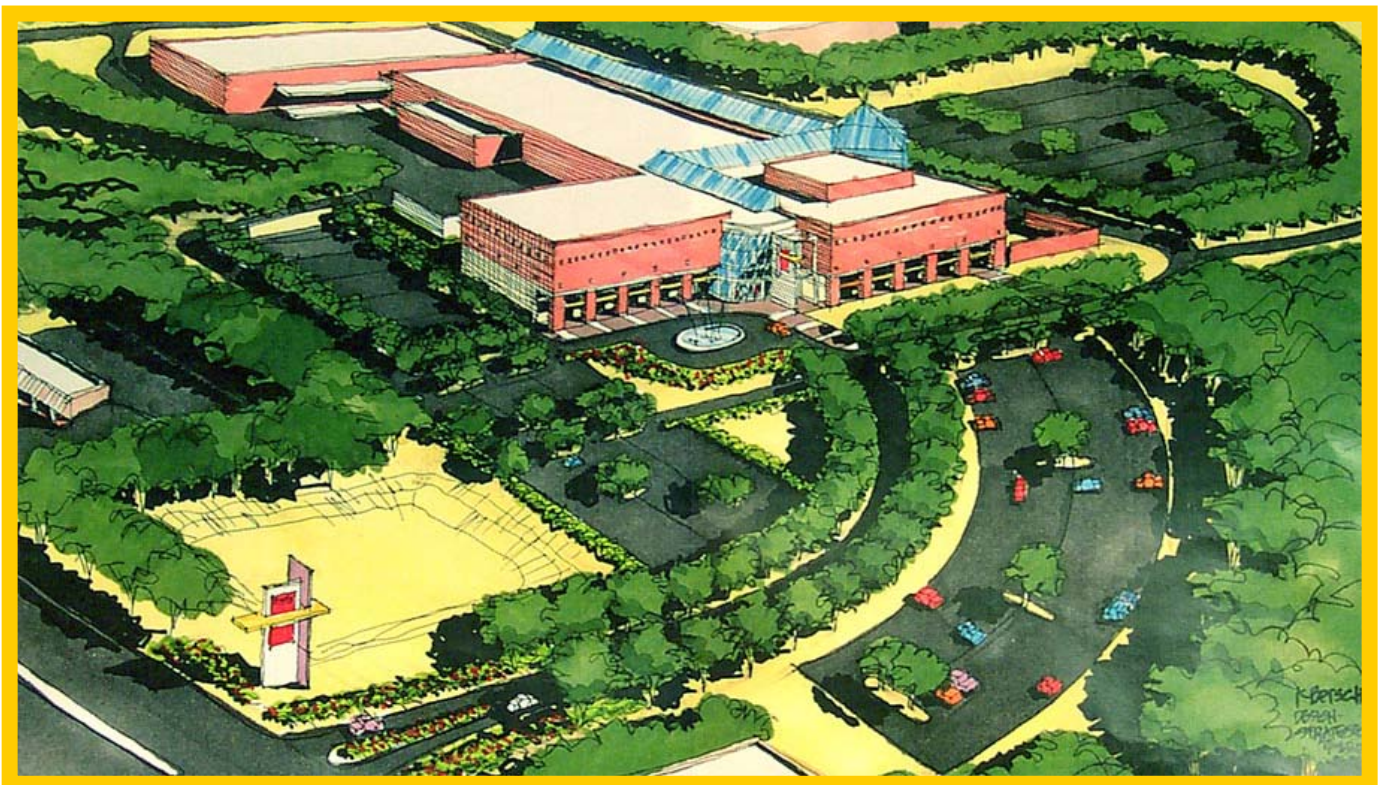


Facts from the City of Greenville

Convention Center Task Force Recommends Expo Center Renovations

The Convention Center Task Force unanimously approved recommendations for renovations to the Palmetto Expo Center at the Task Force's final meeting on August 13. The recommendations were presented by Bob Hughes of Hughes Development, who chaired the Task Force Facilities Committee. The final Task Force report, including previous committee recommendations on Location and Financing, will be presented to the Greenville City Council in the coming weeks.

1. The Convention Center Task Force, chaired by local business leader Jack Sterling, was appointed by the Greenville City Council in 2002, following the 2001 purchase of the Palmetto Expo Center by the City of Greenville. The Task Force Location Committee, in September 2002, recommended that the Expo Center be redeveloped as Greenville's convention center. In December 2002, the Finance Committee recommended a number of financing options for redevelopment of the Expo Center.
2. Goals for the Facilities Committee included: minimize financial drain on taxpayers, facilitate neighborhood improvement and increase economic development (as measured by increases in hotel room/nights, restaurant sales and property redevelopment.) The resulting improvement plan (illustrated below) is expected to cost more than \$18.6 million, may be phased in over several years, will utilize a number of funding sources and will likely include the components listed on the next page.



For more information, call:

Jim Campbell, General Services Director, 864-467-4427 or campbej@greatergreenville.com

Convention Center Task Force Recommends Expo Center Renovations

3. Facilities Committee Recommendations

- a. **Pleasantburg Drive Improvements** (Open view to Expo Center; relocate Eisenhower Dr. and align with Grand Ave.; build a new entry drive & parking; revise traffic control and install a marquee sign.
 - b. **Building systems improvements** (HVAC improvements; roof repair/replacement).
 - c. **Phase I Renovations** (Exterior renovations to Halls A and B; reduce footprint of Hall A; relocate Hall A loading dock; construct new parking; renovate Hall B ballroom to 24,000 sf, column-free space; demolish mezzanine of Hall C to expand Hall C exhibit space to 150,000 sf.; renovate pre-function area between Halls B and C; create new covered walk to entrance on right side of Woodside Center entrance; renovate and improve connection between Halls C and D..
 - d. **Phase 2 Renovations** (Add prefunction space on east side of Hall C, including restrooms and concession areas; install movable partition walls to divide Hall C; renovate Hall A into 30,000 sf of meeting rooms and staff offices; improve interior entrance to Hall A; improve landscaping.)
 - e. Hall D will be maintained for overflow exhibit space or for eventual redevelopment. The 27,000 sf Woodside Conference Center will also be maintained.
 - f. The renovation plan assumes the construction of a privately-funded convention headquarters hotel of approximately 300 rooms.
4. The Expo Center renovation plan will be coordinated with other plans for the Pleasantburg Drive Corridor. The Pleasantburg Master Plan, coordinated by the planning and engineering firm Glatting-Jackson, will begin in August and will be completed by the end of the year.

